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Empowering Women Valuers: Safety first, others next

Ensuring safety as a woman valuer is crucial, especially since the profession involves site visits, meeting clients in different locations, and handling high-value properties. Here are some practical safety measures you can adopt:

01.Office & Workplace Safety

- Install CCTV cameras and place them at the entrance, waiting area, and workspace for security and accountability.
- Maintain a visitor log and record details of all clients and visitors .
- Before starting a valuation assignment, collect client information like,
 - ✓ Full name
 - ✓ Contact number (landline & mobile)
 - ✓ Email ID
 - ✓ Address
 - ✓ Government ID (Aadhaar)
- Cross-check phone numbers using Truecaller or similar apps.
- If working for a company, verify their credentials through their official website.

- Avoid being alone when meeting clients in your office.
- Keep an easy-access emergency button on your phone or a security system in place.

02. Meeting Clients & On-Site Visits

- Choose safe meeting locations and always prefer public places instead of isolated offices.
- Take a photo of the site and politely ask for the client's photo along with the site before beginning the valuation process.
- Note down the landline number of the client or the office for verification.
- Take a photo of the client's vehicle or note the registration number if traveling in their vehicle, and send it to a trusted contact.
- Maintain a personal register to log:
 - ✓ Locations visite
 - ✓ Time of visit
 - ✓ Client details
 - ✓ Mode of travel & companions
- If a site seems risky, take someone along.
- Share your live location with family members or colleagues for added security.
- Carry a safety kit which includes power bank, pepper spray and a police whistle.

03. Recording Conversations & ID Verification

- It's legal to record conversations with client consent. You can inform them that it's for record-keeping purposes.
- You can request a formal ID verification before proceeding with valuation.

04. Digital Safety & Online Protection

- Use a business email ID and phone number, and avoid sharing personal numbers with unknown clients.
- Secure digital files & reports by using encrypted emails and secure cloud storage.
- Avoid sharing live locations on social media.

05. Emergency Preparedness

- Install safety apps on your phone so that you can alert your contacts in an emergency.
- Set up an emergency contact list – Quick-dial numbers for family, friends, or local police should be saved.

Women valuers can thrive in this profession with confidence by adopting these essential safety measures. Prioritizing safety doesn't mean compromising professionalism. By implementing structured precautions, women valuers can safeguard themselves while maintaining excellence in their work.

Stay vigilant, stay empowered!

